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PROCEEDINGS OF THE ... ANNUAL SESSION
1915

By

Farmers' State Alliance of North Carolina

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OF THE

Twenty-Ninth Annual Session

OF

The Farmers State Alliance

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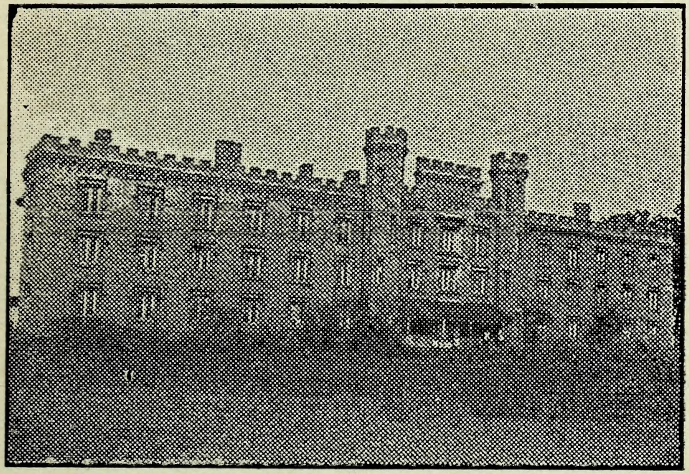

Held at their Headquarters, near Hillsboro, N. C.

August 10th and 11th, 1915.

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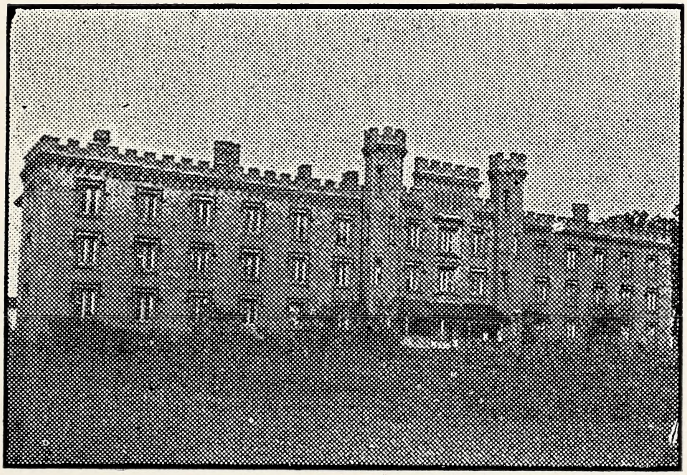

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President C. B. Barnes being absent, promptly at 12 m. Vice President J. C. Bain, called the Alliance to order and opened in due Ritualistic form.

The roll of counties was called and the following counties responded with credentials and delegates.

Alamance—H. M. Cates.
Bertie—J. H. Myers and Thad A. Perry.
Cumberland—S. J. McLauran, W. R. Williams.
Edgecombe—M. P. Eadwards, R. D. Trevathan.
Guilford—J. T. Lane, D. A. Montgomery.
Johnson—R. W. Crumpler, W. A. T. Durham.
Marten—Absent.
Orange—P. M. Sykes.
Wilson—J. A. McKeel.
Wayne—P. C. Caldwell.
Warren—John Graham.
Wake—J. W. Denmark.
Harnett—J. A. Weeks.

President then announced the committe on credentials as follows: C. F. Cates, R. D. Trevathan, P. C. Caldwell. The committee retired, and soon returned and recommended the seating of all delegates as enrolled. Report adopted.

On motion the Alliance adjourned for Dinner until 2. P. M.

Afternoon Session.

At 2 p. m. the Vice-President called the Alliance to order, and asked the Alliance to select a Vice-President. Bro. M. P. Edwards of Speed was elected by suspending rule, the Secretary casting the entire vote of the Alliance.

President J. C. Bains Address.

Brethern of the N. C. F. State Alliance I very much regret the absence of our worthy President, C. B. Barnes of Edgecombe county, and I am at a loss, but it gives me great pleasure to be with you in this your Twenty-Ninth annual session.

Brethren it is nearing 30 years since the 1st Alliance was organized in North Carolina. Our Brotherhood has done more for the uplift of the Farming or Agricultural Classes in this State and in the Southern States than any other Brotherhood that has ever existed, especially along Educational lines.

We meet to-day with our faces to the future. We believe there is as much or perhaps much more work for us to do in the future. We believe that agricultural progress has not kept pace with the expansions of other industries and with our population. We also believe a co-operative system to be successfull must be built by the Farmers themselves, without outside assistance, of any sort.

The first declaration of the purpose of our order shows that it looked to the education of the agricultural class that they might be prepared to measure up to the standard of all other organized industries.

I would respectfully recommend a careful study of our 1st declaration of purpose to the brotherhood of our state. The education of the agricultural class is the most important work of the Alliance not only of our State but in every state of the Union.

I am glad that our Secretary's books show that our membership has doubled in the last six months. This being the case with but very little Lecturing work done, during the year in our State.

Therefore I would urge upon you the importance of more lecture work being done the ensuing year. And the lecturer be engaged in the work no less than 100 days during the ensuing year. I would recommend further that you patronize your business agency more. I believe we should buy all we possibly could, through the agency when we can buy as cheap as elsewhere. And I would further recommend that our Brotherhood would purchase more of our Brands of Fertilizer and encourage the Sale of our Brands to other Farmers, as we buy them just as cheap as other Standard Fertilizers are sold and they are the equal of any brands of the same analysis.

And now wishing you all a happy and profitable State meeting and a hearty welcome to our home on the Historic Grounds of old Hillsboro,

I am Fraternally

J. C. Bain, Vice-President.

Secretary and Treasurers Report.

To the North Carolina Farmers State Alliance, Greeting:

You are now assembled at your 29th mile post in your annual meetings. I beg to report as follows:

I receipted for the last quarters of 1914 for fees and dues $42.55, for the first 2 quarters of 1915 fees and dues $92.95, total for the year $135.50, All of which was turned over to the Business Agents account.

Your fees and dues as received show that new life is coming into our order and we are improving. And may we hope yet to rebuild on our wasted and recapture our lost territory.

There never was any reason for retreating nor a good one for going backwards.

The strong demand for Farmers to organize 30 years ago is just as urgent now.

The demand for real fellowship for co-operation, for education along the lines of economics, for rural problems, for agricultural pursuits, for diversified farming, for the needs of our soils and last but not least is the strong demand for the cultivation

of the social side of life. We know that our Great Creator created us all equal, and to day we do need to have that strong tie of Friendship of the Brotherhood of man and the Fatherhood of God. Why should we not build? A year ago we stood at the threshold of decay, but to day brings us to this mile post with stronger faith and energies anew, for a stronger determination to win.

Our achievements in the past should be a stimulant to encourage us. Our failure, let us make them stepping stones to greater advantages. Let us go forward.

Respectfully, J. H. Evans, Sec'y. and Treas.

On motion the report was adopted.

State Lecturers Report.

To The North Carolina Farmers State Alliance:

The undersigned State Lecturer would beg to make the following report, as it is our custom to do.

We have not done a great deal of lecturing the past year, but what we have done the results have been indeed gratifying.

We have visited Edgecombe, Johnson, Cumberland, Harnett and Sampson counties, and not one single meeting have we attended where the Alliance has not been made stronger and new names added to our roll and several new Sub-Alliance have been organized.

And we can truthfully say, and do say, the outlook for the Farmers Alliance in North Carolina is brighter and better than for several years. Thanking you for past honors and past kindness, I beg to be yours truly

H. M. Cates.

On motion the Lecturers report was adopted.

To The North Carolina Farmers State Alliance, in your Twenty-ninth Annual Session assembled:

Your Agency has to report the smallest sales of any year of your fruitful history, but a better percapitor trade among its members. Your best interest saved by your agency is in keep-

ing you posted and cutting the middle man's profits and the Drummers' expenses, at a cost of only our stationary bill.

Your agency can buy in the best and cheapest markets of the country. The establishment of your agency has placed the farmers on the side of protected buying.

And the Farmer with money can buy in the best markets of your country from a keg of horse shoes to the finest silks without having to pay the Jobbers profit and this advantage was given them by the complete intelligent organizing of the Farmers Alliance.

And to you who support this order and hold it up by paying your dues, are supporting the parasites who are drawing on you for their livelyhood, and many of them will say, I put money in the Alliance and it never did me any good.

And the one making this claim is as ungrateful as the most indifferent sluggard. Your agency was established to protect you against parasites. But the effect has been different and the Farmers who buy in protected markets are like riders who pay no fare. And this leads me to say look at all sides of your Agency before saying it don't pay.

It did not pay the man who sat by the side of the road to invite strangers as they passed by to partake of the cool ripling water as it flowed from a near by spring. Nor did it pay in dollars and cents to the man who sat by the side of the road to gather his delicious fruit and place a nice basket by the side of the spring and ask each passerby as he quenched his thirst to partake of his fruit. But he had the consolation when night came that he had helped humanity. And if by our volume of Business you have not been paid in dollars and cents you have helped others.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. Evans, S. B. Agent.

On motion the report was adopted.

On motion the Alliance adjourned until 8 P. M.

Evening Session.

At 8 promptly J. C. Bain, Pres., called the Alliance to order.

Bro. R. D. Trevathan, chairman of the committee on greetings to the Farmers E. & C. Union reported his attendance to the state meeting at Greenville, saying he was cordially received and that the Union had returned these greetings through a like committee and he then introduced Bro. J. L. Cherry of Edgecombe county. Bro. Cherry then represented himself or the Union as the child visiting parents, and his feeling very much at home with father. Bro. Cherry's message was gladly received, and referred to the committee on resolutions.

On motion the election of officers was made special order for Wednesday at two p. m. Bro. H. M. Cates was appointed to conduct memorial services for one hour over our departed dead who had passed off the stage of action since we last met.

The following resolution was then introduced: In memory of W. A. Capeheart, The Farmers State Alliance of North Carolina now in session at Hillsboro, N. C. this Aug. 10th 1915 do set apart one hour to be devoted to the memory of the late W. A. Capeheart, deceased of Bertie County, N. C. In this dispensation of a wise providence our State Alliance has lost one of its most faithful members, one who was a charter member of Merry Hill, Sub-alliance, a charter member of Bertie County Alliance, and never forsook the order for 28 years. We all agree that we have lost a true member. The church to which he belonged a devout member and steward. The wife and children have lost a kind and loving husband and a devoted father, his community a good neighbor, Bertie County a noble and patriotic citizen, North Carolina a brave Confederate soldier.

For this great loss our hearts go out in sympathy and we bow in sorrow for the beloved wife and children and beg that the religion and God of this good man be commended to wife, children, The Alliance, Bertie county and the State, and that a copy of this be entered upon our minutes, a copy be sent to the family, and to the Windsor Ledger for publication.

J. A. Davis, H. M. Cates, J. H. Evans, committee.

Addresses were made by H. M. Cates, J. H. Evans and J. H. Myers.

R. D. Trevathan then brought up the question of changing our head-quarters.

No action taken.

The Executive Committee reported on trustees report as follows:

Aug. 10th 1915.

Brethern of The North Carolina State Alliance:

Your Executive Committee would respectfully report that they have examined the report and vouchers of the Trustee, H. E. Thompson of the Business agency fund, and find the same correct. His report shows:-

North Carolina 4% Bonds on hand	$7,000.00
Cash on hand	718.15
Total assets in his hands	$7,718.15

Report of the Secretary and Business Agent.

We have to the best of our ability examined the books and vouchers of Bro. J. H. Evans, S. B agt. and find that he received from the

Durham Fertilizer Company	$386.97
Fees and dues	135.55
H. E. Thompson, Trustee	500.00
Acc'ts. of H. E. Thompson	71.76
For merchandise	1,007.79
Total received	$2,102.07

Cr. by repairs, insurance and taxes	$379.07
Cr. by salary from Sept. 17th to Aug. 1st	350.00
Cr. by merchandise	1,362.89
Total	$2,091.96

Balance in hand	$10.11
Acc'ts. due by Bro. Evans	152.50
Acc'ts due by other parties	81.06
Total	$243.67

We find that the S. B. agent sold to other parties other than himself $667.50 on this he received a commission of $11.33.

Respt. Submitted,

John Graham.

Report adopted.

The chair appointed the following committees:

On Resolution, J. A. Davis, S. J. McLauren, G. W. Sykes, J. A. Weeks, J. L. Cherry.

On Constitution and By Laws, C. F. Cates, J. L. Cherry, J. A. McKeel, J. P. Caldwell, R. D. Trevathan.

On Business Agency, O. F. White, J. B. Brake, C. F. Cates, J. H. Myers.

On Lecturing, R. D. Trevathan, J. A. McKeel, T. A. Perry.

On Education, John Graham, H. M. Cates, J. H. Myers.

On Legislation, H. M. Cates, J. L. Cherry, J. H. Evans, J. A. Davis, John Graham

On Revising the Ritual, C. F. Cates, J. H. Evans, M. P. Edwards.

A motion was made by J. A. Davis to cancel the mortgage on the Headquarters, after some discussion the matter was referred to the Executive Committee to act upon legally.

Resolution of J. A. Davis referred to committee on resolutions.

Pro. John Graham rose to defend the Executive Committee.

On motion the Alliance adjourned until Wednesday 9 A. M.

Wednesday, August 11th, 9 A. M.

The Alliance called to order and engaged in singing "America," and opened in due form. Prof. John Graham addressed the body on Education, begging the brethren to spend their money on brains instead of brick and mortar.

A committee consisting of J. L. Cherry, J. H. Evans and H. M. Cates to carry the greetings of the Alliance to the F. E. & C. U. of A. at the next meeting of the N. C. Division.

On motion the secretary was ordered to send to Bro. H. E. Thompson our sympathy in suffering. Lect. H. M. Cates in

usual manner delivered us a very helpful lecture on the great work of the Alliance and its possibilities.

Committee on resolutions reported Resolution 3 favorable. Resolution as follows: that the committee to revise the secret work of our order be ready to report at our next meeting. Adopted.

Legislative Committee Report.

Your Committee on Legislation beg to submit the following: 1st. That we respectfully request the repeal of the crop Lien law, by the next Legislature.

2. That we heartily favor the segregation of the races.

3. That we are opposed to the repeal of the 6% Law, or any modification thereof.

4. That we oppose the Legislature interfering with the rights of the Judiciary.

H. M. Cates, for committee.

Report discused by D. A. Montgomery, J. W. Denmark, J. L. Cherry, J. A. Davis, G. T. Lane, J. C. Bain, H. M. Cates, B. W. Bobbitt, and adopted.

Adjourned for Dinner.

Afternoon Session.

At 2 p. m. the President called the Alliance to order and they engaged in singing "Leaning on Jesus". The hour for the special order having arrived the Alliance proceeded to elect its officers for the ensuing year.

Officers Elected as Follows.

M. P. Edwards, Speed, N. C. President.
J. C. Bain, Wade, N. C. Vice President.
J. H. Evans, Hillsboro, N. C. Sec., Treas. & Business Agent.
J. A. Weeks, Dunn, N. C. Chaplain.
H. M. Cates, Graham, N. C. Lecturer.
O. F. White, Colerain, N. C. Steward.

G. T. Lane, Greensboro. N. C. Door Keeper.

H. H. Thompson, Hillsboro, N. C. Assistant D. K.

P. C. Caldwell of Goldsboro, N. C. Member of the Executive Committee. The officers elect were then duly installed into office. On motion, Brothers C. F. Cates, T. J. Oldham, John Graham and J. A. Davis were appointed to write a tribute to the value of J. W. Denmark on the Executive Committee and the Alliance.

Business Agency Committee Report.

In view of the small amount of work done in the B. Agency we do not feel that the present salary is justifiable by the income from the business. We recommend that if satisfactory arrangements can be made that the S. B. A. and Sec'y & Treas. be given for his services

1st Head quarters property and Farm for his use. And the Taxes, Insurance and repairs be paid for by the Alliance.

2nd All commissions on sales.

3rd All fees and dues not in excess of $150.00.

On investigation of the amount of work required in the office we find that he could devote almost his entire time to the farm or other personal business.

O. F. White, J. B. Brake, J. H. Myers and C. F. Cates Committee.

Report amended to read $200. for his salary and then adopted.

Bro. John Graham offered the following: Whereas the North Carolina Farmers State Alliance has always favored the cause of Education and especially Agricultural and Industrial development. Now be it Resolved: That the various County Subordinate Alliances are hereby requested to instruct their delegates to the State Alliance of 1916 as to their wishes in reference to the establishment of a Farm life School of a high order at our head quarters at Hillsboro and that said delegates be empowered to act as their judgment may direct. The motion to adopt was lost.

A motion was then passed for the Executive Committee if they could arrange with the Sec., Treas. & B. A. committee to lease our headquarters for a hospital and to cut the shoe factory up and make tenant houses for the use of the Farm.

The Following Resolution Read.

Hillsboro, N. C., Aug. 11, 1915.

The Farmers Alliance of N. C., now in Session do hereby record its thanks to Bro. J. H. Evans and family for the magnificent manner in which he and they entertained the State Alliance during this Session. H. M. Cates.

Adopted by a rising vote.

A Resolution was offered to send out the Lecturer and do more work the coming year. After some discussion the resolution was carried and adopted.

There appearing no other business The Alliance engaged in singing "Blessed be the tie that binds" and ajourned until the 2nd Tuesday in August, 1916.

M. P. Edwards, President.
J. H. Evans, Secretary.

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